

An Exact and Faithful Account of the late

BLOODY FIGHT

BETWEEN

Captain Hastings Commander of the *Sapphire*,Captain S. H. P. W. E. L. Commander of the *James Gally*,

AND

JONAS RAILE, Captain of the *Half-Moon of Algier*; a Ship of 32 Guns, and 246 Men, with the Particulars of the Engagement, sent from on Board the *James Gally*, lying in Tangier Road, 1 September the 22d. 1681.

September the 21st about ten in the Morning, we saw a Ship S. W. by W. about five Leagues from us, we immediately chased, the Wind was then at E. N. E. and N. E. by E. where it continued all day, he steered S. by W. at eight this Evening we were within Call, he hailed us in several Languages, we answered, we did belong to the King of France, he told us, they were the *Half-Moon of Algier*, and had been from thence about ten weeks, we asked for Salle-Men, and told him we suspected he was of Salle, and commanded his Boat on Board (all which he denied) in such like discourse we held him, until we were along his Larboard side, which was the weather side, I resolving to board him thwart the Harfe, by reason there went such a Sea, that I was content of bringing his Bolt-sprit and Fore-Mast by the Board, but he suspecting my design, put his Helm a port, and made his Starboard side the weather side: I fired all my guns into him: the *Sapphire* being a quarter of a mile a Stern of us, took the advantage, and before the Turk could trim his Sails, run him on Board the Starboard side past the Fore-Chains, it was then half an hour past 8: I endeavoured to be thwart his Harfe, and twice missed, the third time I laid him on Board, that his Bolt-sprit was amongst our Main-Shrouds, but with the way we had brought his Ship a little about, and our Fore-Braces being loose, could not back our Head-Sails, that we shor of him in little more than a quarter of an hour; when after the *Sapphire* was clear of the *Algerine*, and fell a Stern, which was occasioned by the loss of her Bolt-sprit and Fore-Mast, it was then three quarters past nine: I left having the *Algerine* to deal withal alone, with all Masts standing, Stearing away before the Wind, remote to be thwart his Harfe, for my guns being but six, it was not to be hoped they could do much, in shooting down their Masts: soon after ten, with our Shot full, I steered thwart his Harfe, he broke our Main-Shrouds, also our Main-Chains, and our Mizon-Shrouds and Mizon-Chains, and our Mizon-Chain to the Deck, but broke his Bolt-sprit Head,

Outwater, Knee, and Cheeks of his Head, so that he had a smooth Stern quite below the waters edge, we lay thwart his Harfe about half an Hour, and then being entangled with his Rigging, we fell along his Side, with our Head to his Stern, where we lay about half an Hour, in which time the Rigging broke, and he got off from us, but I again laid him on Board, on the Starboard Bow, where we lay to keep him from securing his Masts, which I expected would fall every moment, for the Knees of his Head being gone, the Collar of his Main Stay came on the Deck, so that both Main and Foremast were equally in danger, and at a quarter after one his Foremast came by the Board and soon after his Main and Mizon Masts, I laid my Sails aback, and called to them, they answered, they yielded the Ship, we immediately went to work to secure our Masts, and mend our Boat that it might swim which was not done before day light, at which time we went on Board and took Possession, it was the *Half-Moon of Algier*, carried 32 Guns, and came out of Algier with 246 men, whereof 39 were Christians, of which 20 English, they had taken a small English Vessel bound for Bermudes, with 20 English men, which they took on Board, and sunk the Vessel. The Captains Name was Jonas Raile, a Turk, the Lieutenant an English Renegado, which I caused to be hanged at my Yard Arm; the damage we received, was 18 men killed, and 32 men wounded, and both Main and Foremast spoiled. We took him 45 Leagues S. W. by W. half W. from Cape Spartel: There were killed on Board the *Half-Moon* 93 Turks and Moors, and most of the Living wounded; the Turks positively inform me, that there is but two better Ships in Algier, which are *Canaries* and the *White-Horse*.